

# TRUSTEE TALK

Updates from the Board of Trustees for our Sturgeon Public school community  
April 2023



## Trustee Handbook

The Board of Trustees has developed a new Trustee Handbook that outlines the beliefs, policies and practices related to Board Governance. The Trustee Handbook is a crucial tool to help Trustees lead by example in all decisions and activities, ultimately benefiting public education and the students at Sturgeon Public Schools.

An excellent governance culture is characterized by a Board that consistently operates in an environment of trust, respect and professional demeanor. The Board sets the tone for the entire Division in how it carries out its governance responsibilities, and the handbook contains clear statements and explanations of the connections between policy and application and the process where the direction of the organization is set that guides the Board's decision-making processes.

The handbook includes expectations and procedures for individual trustees, both as members of the Board and as representatives of the communities that elected them. Trustees are expected to govern themselves accordingly. As per policy 225, the Board evaluates itself annually against Board effectiveness in meeting policies, norms, principles, protocols and expectations contained in this handbook to continually improve its governance practices.

The Board of Trustees believes that transparency and accountability are essential in ensuring public confidence in its operations and conduct. That is why the handbook has been shared on the [Division website](#).

## The 2023 Education Planning Assurance Report

Each year, the Sturgeon Public Schools Education Planning team releases their Education Planning Assurance Report. This Report outlines the various ways the Division is ensuring that:

1. Sturgeon Public students demonstrate strong achievement across provincial learning outcomes, engage critically and continuously progress as learners;
2. Sturgeon Public teachers and principals demonstrate all dimensions of the Teaching or Leadership Quality Standard in a collaborative culture of learning; and
3. All students belong and learn in environments that support their needs. Public confidence is built when system resources are used to ensure optimum learning for all.

Click [here](#) to view the 2023 Education Planning Assurance Report and learn about the work completed in schools across the Division to build achievement, develop instructional practice and ensure that all students belong and have access to optimum learning.

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### Updated Policies: 110, 115 & 125

At the April 26th Public Board Meeting, the below Policies were reviewed by the Board of Trustees. Policy 115 and Policy 125 were approved with no amendments. Policy 110 was amended to include an additional clause, which addresses the importance of celebrating student and staff cultures and collaborating with community and cultural leaders to build connections to those cultures.

- Policy [110](#) - Welcoming Inclusive, Safe and Healthy Environments
- Policy [115](#) - Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities
- Policy [125](#) - Advocacy Plan

### Check out the SCHS Drumline

At the April 26th Public Board Meeting, the Sturgeon Composite High School Music Program shared an outstanding video showcasing their award-winning Drumline! To see clips from their performances and to learn more about the ways that the students have benefitted from being a part of the Drumline, click [here](#).

